

09/837,499

[Signature]

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, please amend the first paragraph as indicated below.

The connecting part 1, which is ring-shaped here, has a circulatory tongue 5 extending a substantial length, or entirely, along its inner surface that is partially enclosed by the molded piece 2. This ensures a highly stable connection of connecting part 1/molded piece 2.

SECOND

Page 3, please amend the ~~third~~ paragraph as indicated below.

mjd 7/18/07

The connecting part 1 comprises discrete fasteners 3 along its periphery for a detachable gastight connection to an adapter 4 for connecting a respirator or fan filter unit 5. The figure depicts this connection as a snap-in connection. It may also be designed as another conventional connection such as threaded, quarter-turn fastener, etc.